

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: E. Martinez-Force et al. Attorney Docket No.: ARNO118342
Filed: Concurrently Herewith
Title: OIL FROM SEEDS WITH A MODIFIED FATTY ACID COMPOSITION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 14, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Specification:

At page 1, after the title and before the Object of the Invention, please delete lines 2-9.

Please insert the following section at page 1, after the title:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a division of U.S. Application No. 09/326,500, filed June 4, 1999, priority from the filing date of which is hereby claimed under 25 U.S.C. § 120.

After the claims, please enter the Abstract of the Disclosure, as submitted as new separate page 13.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-12 and 16-23 and rewrite Claims 13-15 to read as follows:

13. (Amended) Sunflower seeds comprising a sunflower oil having:

an oleic acid content of more than 5% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

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a linoleic acid content of more than 1% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

a palmitic acid content of more than 20% and less than 40% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

a stearic acid content of more than 3% and less than 15% based upon the total fatty acid content,

wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content, and[;]

the asclepic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content.

14. (Amended) Sunflower seeds of claim 13 wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 3% based upon the total fatty acid content.

15. (Amended) Method for preparing sunflower seeds as claimed in claim 13, comprising the steps of:

a) crossing sunflower seeds of the mutant sunflower line IG-1297M deposited on 20 January 1998 with ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-209591 with the mutant sunflower line CAS-3, deposited on 14 December 1994 with the ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-75968,

b) self-pollinating F1 progeny plants of step a) for at least two generations to produce inbred plants,

c) selecting from the progeny of step b) plants with seeds containing an oil having a palmitic acid content of more than 20%, a palmitoleic acid content of less than 4% and an asclepic acid content of less than 3%,

d) collecting progeny seeds from step c), and optionally

e) repeating the cycle of culturing, selection and collection of seeds.


REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the specification are made to delete the identification of the inventors on page 1, add a Cross-Reference to Related Application section, and to provide an Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet. Claims 1-12 and 16-23, which are the subject of applicants' allowed U.S. Application No. 09/326,500, filed June 4, 1999, have been canceled from the present application. Claims 13-15 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE FEBRUARY 14, 2002

In the Specification

The identification of the inventors has been deleted.

A Cross-Reference to Related Application section has been added.

An Abstract of the Disclosure has been submitted as new separate page 13.

In the Claims

13. (Amended) Sunflower seeds comprising a sunflower oil having:

an oleic acid content of more than 5% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

a linoleic acid content of more than 1% and less than 65% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

a palmitic acid content of more than 20% and less than 40% by weight based upon the total fatty acid content,

a stearic acid content of more than 3% and less than 15% based upon the total fatty acid content,

[characterized in that] wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content, and[;]

the asclepic acid content is less than 4% based upon the total fatty acid content.

14. (Amended) Sunflower seeds [comprising a sunflower oil according to claim 2] of claim 13 wherein the palmitoleic acid content is less than 3% based upon the total fatty acid content.

15. (Amended) Method for preparing sunflower seeds as claimed in claim 13, comprising the steps of:

a) crossing sunflower seeds of the mutant sunflower line IG-1297M deposited on 20 January 1998 with ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-209591 with the mutant sunflower line CAS-3, deposited on 14 December 1994 with the ATCC under deposit accession number ATCC-75968[.],

b) self-pollinating F1 progeny plants of step a) for at least two generations to produce inbred plants[.],

c) selecting from the progeny of step b) plants with seeds containing an oil having a palmitic acid content of more than 20%, a palmitoleic acid content of less than 4% and an asclepic acid content of less than 3%[.],

d) collecting progeny seeds from step c), and optionally

e) repeating the cycle of culturing, selection and collection of seeds.

Claims 1-12 and 16-23 have been canceled.

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